

*Eye on Nine... Keeping You Informed*  
**From the Office of District 9 Councilman, Carroll W. Schubert**

**PROP 3**

I am happy to report that City Council is putting the *Aquifer Protection Initiative* in the hands of the voters. This initiative, also known as *Proposition 3*, allows the City to buy land and conservation easements over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. Due to a change in state law, the City would even be allowed to buy land outside of Bexar County that sits over the Recharge Zone. This is important because much of the recharge zone sits to the west of Bexar County.

During Thursday's (8-19-04) meeting, the Council had to decide whether to put Proposition 3 on the ballot in February or wait until May. Because land prices are increasing, I believe the sooner we can get the issue in front of voters, the better. Therefore, I worked hard to get *Prop 3* on the February ballot. Unfortunately, in a close vote of 6 to 4, the Council voted to put the issue on the May ballot instead.

Despite the timing, I am pleased that this very important issue is being brought to the voters who will decide whether to increase the sales tax for this land and easement purchase.

**CITY-COUNTY INTEGRATION**

The City and County are working to find areas where services can be integrated, rather than duplicated. By doing this, Bexar County and San Antonio taxpayers will be getting more for their money. I think this is a move taxpayers will appreciate, especially since most of us pay taxes in both the City and the County.

During Thursday's City Council meeting, we heard the final recommendations from the Committee charged with finding areas where integration would work. They have made numerous suggestions, for example: a Central Jury Pool, combined 3-1-1 Customer Service System, Park Security, Health Authorities, and Flood Control. The final report is available online for your review at <http://www.sanantonio.gov/integration/>

The County Commissioners Court will hear the same recommendations at their meeting this week. Both entities will vote on the various recommendations this fall.

**BUDGET**

The City Council is currently engaged in hearings on the 2005 Budget. If you have questions or ideas about specific items in the City Budget, please contact our office 341.2390 or [dist9fldofc@sanantonio.gov](mailto:dist9fldofc@sanantonio.gov). As always, I look forward to hearing from you.



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